

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 867

By Jones S

A RESOLUTION urging Senator Frist, Senator Alexander, and Tennessee's Congressional delegation to block the takeover of six U.S. seaports by Dubai Ports World.

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the federal government to protect our nation's borders; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has failed in its duty on many counts, including the obvious free flow of illegal narcotics and illegal immigrants into this country; and

WHEREAS, the Bush administration's approval of the takeover of six major U.S. seaports by Dubai Ports World, a state-owned business in the United Arab Emirates, is a threat to national security; the sale and takeover of these strategically significant ports should be vigorously opposed; and

WHEREAS, the 6.8 billion dollar sale would put Dubai Ports World in control of major shipping operations in New York, New Jersey, Baltimore, New Orleans, Miami, and Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, several of the 9/11 hijackers used the United Arab Emirates as an operational and financial base; further, critics of the port transfer contend the United Arab Emirates was an important transfer point for shipments of smuggled nuclear components sent to Iran, North Korea, and Libya; and

WHEREAS, because of Tennessee's proximity to major markets, our roads, railroads, and barges carry heavy volumes of cargo from all six of the U.S. ports scheduled for takeover by Dubai Ports World; and

WHEREAS, the potential threat to our national security posed by this portentous transfer should be neither dismissed nor ignored; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that this General Assembly does hereby strongly urge Senator Frist, Senator Alexander, and Tennessee's Congressional delegation to act to block the takeover of six U.S. seaports by Dubai Ports World, and if such operational transfer is to be permitted, then the federal government should appropriate more funds to the states for Homeland Security efforts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Speaker and the Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives; the President and the Secretary of the U.S. Senate; and to each member of the Tennessee Congressional delegation.